16th September 2026

Edmonton Primary School Newsletter

Principals Korero

Kia ora, Talofa lava, afio mai, ˈnʌməsteɪ , pai ata, Kuja hapa, greetings, สวัสดี, 欢迎 and malo e lelei, Salaam+

Swimming

Our students have really enjoyed their last two swimming sessions. It has been fantastic to see their enthusiasm as they take part in the different activities and, most importantly, to see the progress they are making in the water. Well done, everyone!

🎨 Room 12 Mural

Exciting plans are underway for a new mural on the Room 12 wall, which will be painted over the school holidays. Our students are currently voting on which mural design they would like to see. The theme will celebrate **our wonderfully multicultural school community**, reflecting the many cultures, languages and identities that make Edmonton such a special place to learn and grow. We can't wait to see the winning design come to life!

Ngā Mihi

Margaret Samson (Principal)

Contact Us:

1-29 School Road, Te Atatu South

Phone:

(09) 838 9318

Email

office@edmonton-primary.school.nz

School Hours

8:55am—3:00pm

TERM DATES 2026

Term 3
Monday 20th July to
Friday 25th September

Term 4
Monday 12th OctoberTo
Tuesday 15th December

TERM DATES 2027

Term 2
Tuesday 2nd Februday to
Friday 3rd July

Term 2
Tuesday 27th April to
Friday 2nd July

Term 3
Monday 19th July to
Friday 24th September

Term 4
Monday 11th OctoberTo
Thursday 17th December

School Docs

Please login to School Docs to have a look at our current Policies & Procedures

Community User: Edmonton : Password: Respect

What's Coming Up 2026

TERM 3 * 20th July — 29th September

- Thursday 24th September — School Photos
- Friday 25th September — Whole School Assembly
- Friday 25th September — Last Day for Term3

TERM 4 * 12th October—15th December

- Monday 12th October — First Day for Term 4
- Friday 23rd October — Whole School Assembly
- Monday 26th October — Labour Day
- Friday 6th November — Whole School Assembly
- Thursday 10th December — Big Day Out - Pt Erin
- Monday 14th December — Teacher Only Day
- Tuesday 15th December — Teacher Only Day
- Friday 11th December — Last Day for children Term 4 2pm finish

Term Dates for 2027

Term 1 * Monday 1st February - Friday 9th April

- Monday 8th February — Waitangi Day

Term 2 * Tuesday 27th April - Friday 2nd July

- Monday 7th June — Kings Birthday
- Friday 14th June — Matariki

Term 3 * Monday 19th July - Friday 24th September

Term 4 * Monday 11th October -Thursday 16th December

- Monday 25th October — Labour Weekend

SAVE THE DATE

KIDS STUFF

International Red Panda Day September 19th

Red Panda

The red panda, also known as the lesser panda, is a mammal that lives in the eastern Himalayas and southwestern China. Previously thought to be a part of the bear or raccoon families, recent research has shown that the red panda is in a family of its own.

What is the red panda?

The red panda, also known as the lesser panda, is a mammal that lives in the eastern Himalayas and southwestern China. Previously thought to be a part of the bear or raccoon families, recent research has shown that the red panda is in a family all of its own.

Red pandas are a very solitary species that are excellent climbers. Often considered to be a nocturnal species, the red panda spends most of the daytime sleeping on high branches or inside hollow trees. It’s most active during the late evening and nighttime hours when it climbs and forages in the dense foliage.

They are classified as an endangered species, with the most recent estimates suggesting that less than 10,000 red pandas exist in the wild currently.

What does the red panda look like?

The red panda is about the size of a domestic house cat, only slightly longer. It has thick and long reddish-brown fur that has dark markings similar to those found on a raccoon. It also has a long, bushy tail which has a series of dark rings that help it to camouflage itself. As well as for camouflage, the red panda tail is incredibly important for helping itmaintain balance as it climbs up the large trunks and branches of trees.

The species has short legs that are covered in dense fur that help it to stay warm as it climbs over snow-covered and icy surfaces. Even the red panda's feet are covered with fur, which protects it against ice and helps it to grip onto bark as it quickly scales up tree trunks.

Red pandas also have long, sharp claws which help them to climb and defend themselves from prey. Despite being quite small, they can be very aggressive towards threats, often standing on their hind legs to look larger and using their claws to threaten and attack predators.

What does the red panda eat?

Being the excellent climber that they are, a red pandas diet consists mainly of bamboo shoots. Similarly to the giant panda, the species doesn't have a very efficient digestive system. This means that it needs to consume a huge volume of bamboo each day to survive. Bamboo is a very low-calorie plant, so the red panda has to spend the majority of its day eating. The average red panda will eat around 5 kilograms of bamboo every day.

They can also find other sources of food when necessary. Red pandas have been known to eat small mammals, birds, eggs and barries. However, like the giant panda, the red panda prefers to eat bamboo shoots rather than waste energy hunting and eating prey.

Where does the red panda live?

Red pandas live in high altitudes and can typically be found in the Himalayan mountain range. The red panda's habitat tends to be in altitudes ranging between 7,200 and 15,700 feet above sea level. They’re also very sensitive to significant changes in temperature and require a stable and moderate level of warmth to survive. Red pandas prefer dense, temperate forests with a thick layer of bamboo coverage. This provides them with enough food as well as giving them enough trees to climb to forage and avoid predators such as snow leopards.

Red pandas can be found in many Asian countries, including China, Myanmar, Nepal, India and Tibet. However, due to their specific needs, they can only be found in particular regions of these countries.

Why are red pandas endangered?

It is estimated that in the past two decades, the number of wild red pandas has decreased by around 40%. With less than 10,000 red pandas left in the wild, they are now considered to be an endangered species. This is due to a variety of reasons, most of which are caused by an increase in human presence within red panda habitats.

One of the main causes of a decline in the red panda population is due to human expansion in the form of deforestation and farming.

Red pandas are also victims of poaching. They are typically hunted for their pelts, claws and meat. However, the biggest threat to the red panda is its increasing popularity within the illegal pet trade. In recent years, more and more red pandas have been taken from the wild to be sold as pets to bidders around the world. Without proper care, many of the red pandas that are purchased as pets do not survive for very long.

Another factor is the red panda’s difficulty in breeding with one another. With the loss of their habitat, red panda populations are becoming increasingly isolated. This means that red pandas are unable to find suitable mates. It has also led to a lot of interbreeding amongst red panda populations, which causes a variety of health problems for red panda pups.

However, conservationists are doing everything they can to stop red panda populations from decreasing. By encouraging recycling and using resources more effectively, many groups are succeeding in their efforts to limit the destruction of red panda habitats. Also, more and more zoos are beginning to grow self-sustaining red panda populations. These populations can then hopefully one day be released back into the wild. When this happens, the wild red panda population can thrive once again.

What is the red panda related to?

Despite the similar name, the red panda is not closely related to the giant panda.

The red panda is most closely related toracoons, skunks and weasels.

How big is a red panda?

A male red panda weighs between 3.7kg - 6.2kg.

A female red panda weighs between 3-6kg.

How long does a red panda live?

The life expectancy of a red panda is up to23 years.They show signs of ageing from 12 years onwards.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Contact Details:

It is very important that we have up to date contact details for parents/caregivers. To ensure that we are able to contact whanau please contact the school office with any changes or additions.

After Hours :

Unless your children are in Before or After School Care. Please make sure they are not at school before 8:30am and they are picked up and off of the school grounds by 3:10pm

Absence::

Please use the Skool Loop App to report an absence or leave a message on the school phone Absence Line. We need to know when you children are going to be away to avoid them being marked as 'truant'.

Collecting Students during the school day:

If you need to collect your child for an appointment during the school day please contact the office 09 838 9318 or email office@edmonton-primary.school.nz to arrange. If possible please arrange to collect your child before or after the morning tea and lunch breaks, as it is difficult to find children during these times. Morning tea is 10.30 am until 11.00 am, lunch from 12.30 pm until 1.20 pm.

Arriving Late:

Children must report to the office if they arrive after 8:55am

Hearing & Vision:

The National Public Health . Results of vision and hearing screening will be sent home with your child. The results may be shared with the school, including your Service – Northern region's Vision and Hearing Screening team will be visiting our school during the school year to screen those in Years 0-2 who have not previously had their B4School screening or require a follow-up re-screen. If you do not want your child's vision and hearing to be screened, please notify the school.

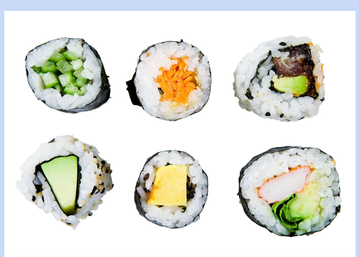
Results of vision and hearing screening will be sent home with your child. The results may be shared with the school, including your child's teacher.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

School lunches are available as follows

Wednesdays – Sushi Thursdays – Bakery Fridays – Bakery

Order forms are available in your child's classroom. **One form per child is required**



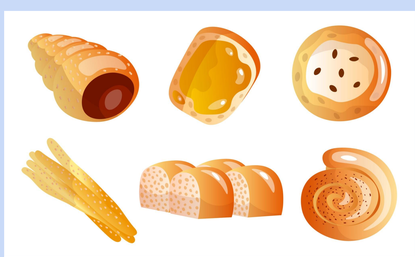
Payment can be made online to

Edmonton School Board of Trustees

12 3038 0453332 00

Please make sure that payments are made on the day of order

and that the child's name and 'lunch' are noted on the payment



OSCAR PROGRAM

Before & After School Care & Holiday Program

We have ***Before and After school care*** available on site. The program runs from 7:00 am until 8:30 am in the mornings and then from 3:00 pm until 5:30 pm in the afternoons.

This service also runs a ***Holiday Program*** during the holidays.

Edmonton school oscar program

For information about before school,

after school care and holiday programme or enrolment forms

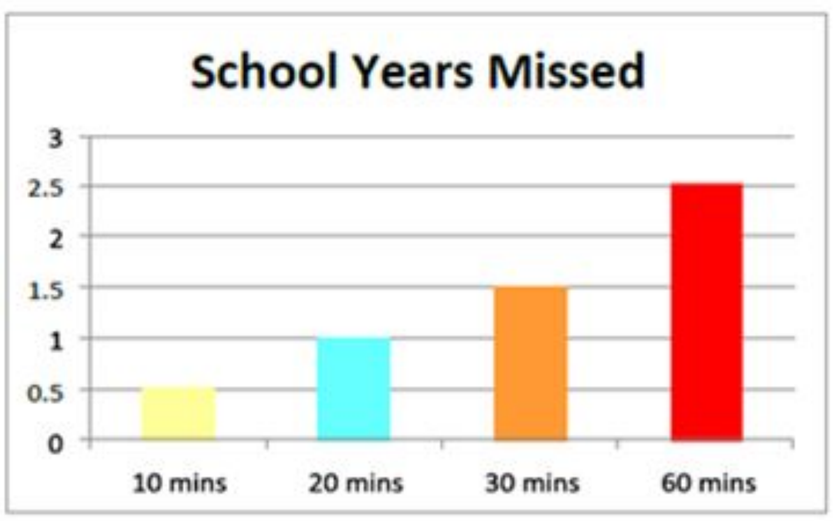
Please contact Office Ph 8389318 or Claire Busby 027 550 5197

WHAT IS YOUR CHILD MISSING OUT ON?

JUST A LITTLE BIT LATE FOR SCHOOL or LEAVE A LITTLE EARLY DOESN'T SEEM MUCH BUT .....

If your child is missing	That equals	Which is	And over 13 years of
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Almost 1.5 weeks of the	Almost half of a school year
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 minutes per	Over 2.5 weeks per	Almost 1 school year
Half an hour per day	Half a day per school	4 weeks per school year	Almost 1 .5 school years
1 hour per day	1 day per school week	8 weeks per school year	Over 2.5 school years

Did you know that your child's best learning time is the start of the school day? That's when every minute counts the most. School starts at 8:55am.



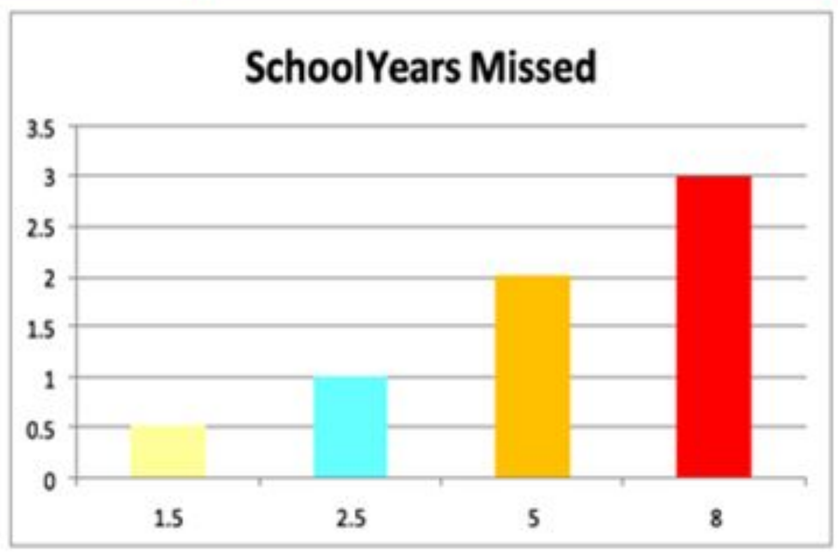
EVERY MINUTE COUNTS

DOES ATTENDANCE REALLY MATTER?

1 OR 2 DAYS A WEEK DOESN'T SEEM MUCH BUT...

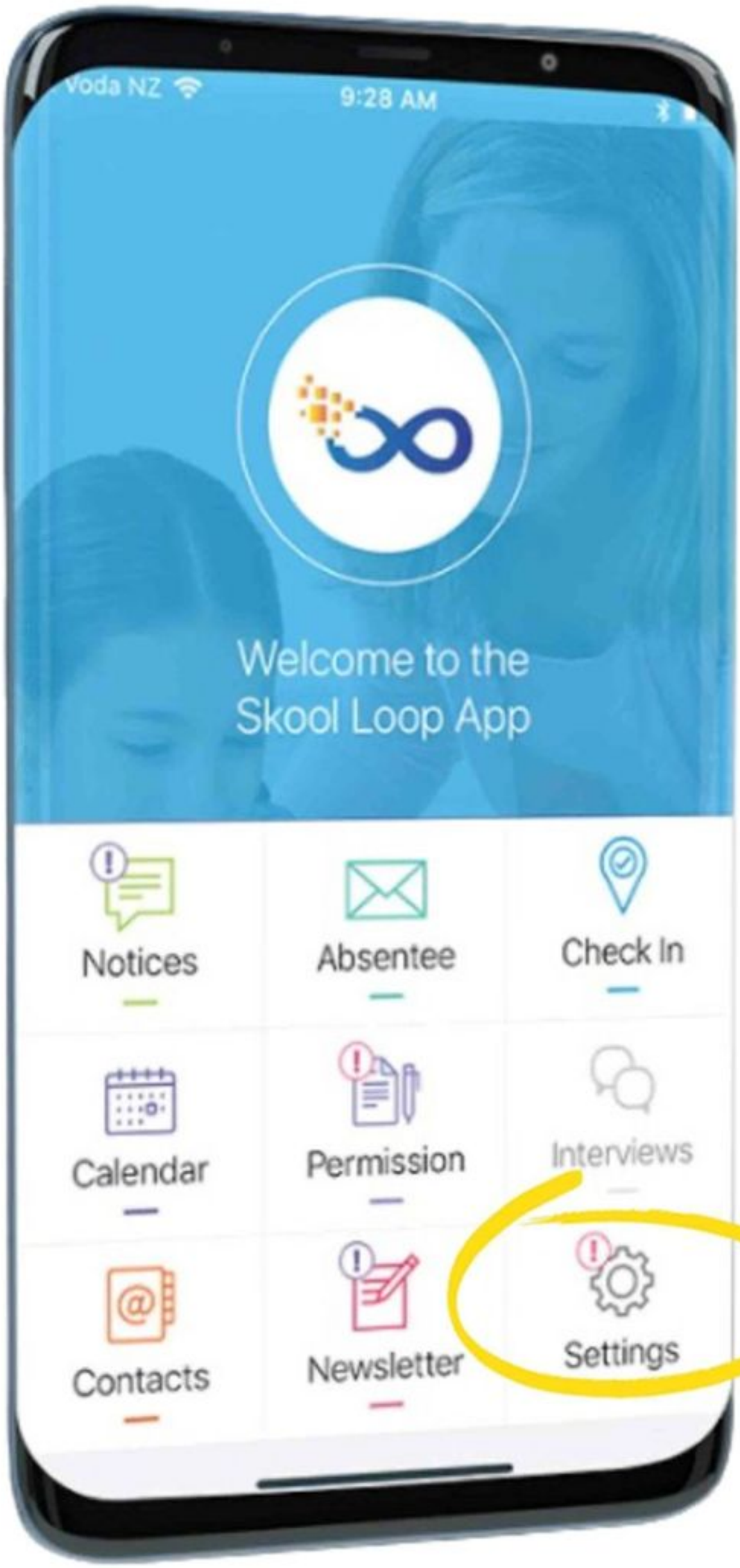
If your child misses	That equals	Which is	And over 13 years of schooling that's
Half a day per week	20 days per year	1 month per school year	Almost 1.5 school years
1 day per week	40 days per year	2 months per school year	Almost 2.5 school years
2 days per week	80 days per year	4 months per school year	Over 5 school years
3 days per week	120 days per year	Over half a school year	Almost 8 school years

If you want your child to be successful at school then YES, ATTENDANCE DOES MATTER!



EVERY DAY COUNTS

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE TO NOTICE GROUPS



TO JOIN YOUR SKOOL LOOP APP NOTICE GROUPS, SIMPLY FOLLOW THE STEPS BELOW:

- Go to the 'Settings' tile in the bottom right hand corner of the Home Screen
- Go to 'Subscribe to groups'
- Tap to select the group/s you would like to receive notifications from
- You're good to go – you will now receive all notices sent to the groups you have subscribed to

NEED MORE INFO?

Call Skool Loop Aus on 1800 203 493

Call Skool Loop NZ on 0800 238 379

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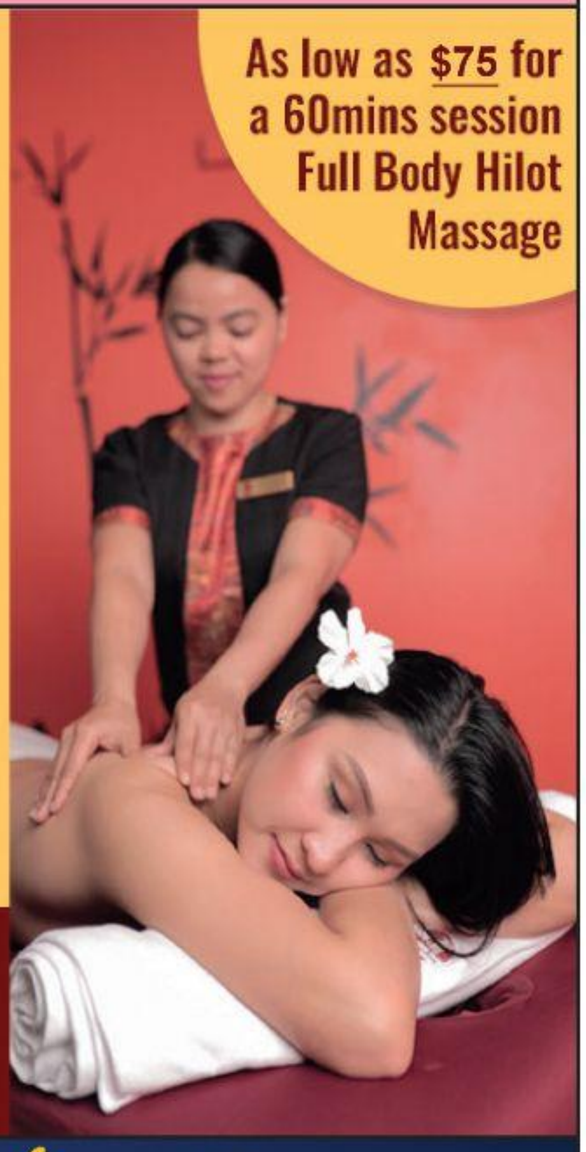

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06/25

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